

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. (currently amended) A method for distributing packages or similar dispatched articles, the method comprising the steps of:

acquiring wherein the packages (1) that are to be transported especially from private senders and/or commercial senders to an addressee are acquired at [a] collecting locations location (2);

providing the packages (1) are provided at the collecting locations location with a package code (C) containing at least an address addresses and a[,] package number[[s]] or the like as electronically detectable data; ~~and, subsequently, the packages (1) are distributed and/or delivered by means of respective transport vehicles, characterized in that~~

supplying the collected packages (1) are supplied to a HUB center that is associated with connected to the several collecting locations (2); ~~in that~~

combining in the HUB center the respective package codes (C) are combined with data sets comprising measurement data (length, width, height, weight), the geo coordinates (addressees) as well as and identification data of the packages, respectively, package (1) to [a] controllable package routing codes, respectively; code (C'); and in that

supplying the these package routing codes (C') of all the packages (1') are supplied to a central computer (7) in such a way that, subsequently,

arranging the packages (1') by means of according to output signals that are generated by the a program of the central computer (7) and that effect effecting a dynamically optimizable route planning (D) are arranged in a sorted package sequence sorted in accordance with distribution zones; ~~that this~~

introducing the sorted package sequence and as well as the package routing codes (C') are introduced into transport boxes (30) in a distribution-compatible sorted arrangement;

(6); transferring the transport boxes are transferred onto a vehicle;

(29); and, subsequently, delivering automatically controlled the packages (1') are delivered by a navigation-controlled distribution (9) in an automatically controllable way to the addressee, respectively (41).

2. (currently amended) The method according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that wherein the data sets comprising the expanded package routing codes (C'') with measurement data, geo coordinates, addressees, and identifier identification data are acquired already at [[in]] the collecting locations location (2), at a client, or directly at the sender, are transmitted to the central computer (7), and, subsequently, the data sets (C'') are checked when the packages arrive upon package arrival in the HUB center.~~

3. (currently amended) The method according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that wherein several of the HUB center centers (HUB, HUB') are controlled by said one the central computer (7).~~

4. (currently amended) The method according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that further comprising the step of supplying the packages in the HUB center the packages (1') are supplied by computer control to an intermediate storage facility (14) having defined storage locations, are stored therein storing the packages in the intermediate storage facility within a predetermined time window, and, subsequently, removing the packages (1') are removed in a distribution-compatible sequence.~~

5. (currently amended) The method according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that wherein~~

- ~~in decentralized each of the collecting locations (2), respectively, that are decentralized,~~ the packages (1) are provided with a machine-readable information carrier,
- the respective package code (C) is electronically acquired as identification ~~data~~ information and supplied to the central computer (7),
- the packages (1) of the ~~respective~~ collecting locations (2) are transported in a transport box to a common trans-shipment center (18),
- from the trans-shipment center, the packages (1) ~~in the form of~~ as a random transport quantity (20) are transported in the transport box to the HUB center,
- in the HUB center, the package codes (C) are read into a HUB computer (4) for checking completeness of the packages (1),
- the package routing codes are generated from the package codes (C) with and the measurement data sets of the package (1) are generated as an electronically checked package routing code, respectively (C'),

- the package routing codes (C') ~~is~~ are supplied to the central computer (7) and processed in accordance with [a] the dynamically optimizable route planning ~~(D)~~,
- ~~the~~ computed data of the dynamically optimizable route planning are transmitted to the HUB computer (4) ~~as well as~~ and to the trans-shipment centers (18) contained within the dynamically optimizable route planning,
- the packages (1') are arranged in package stacks in a transport-compatible way in a last-in-first-out arrangement ~~(LIFO)~~,
- - one or several of the generated package stacks (6) are removed from the HUB center,
- the package stacks (6) are introduced into transport boxes and are transported by ~~means of~~ a transport vehicle (8) to the trans-shipment center (18),
- in the trans-shipment center the package stacks (6) are transferred to a distribution vehicle (35),
- - the distribution vehicle receives the package routing codes (C') of one or several package stacks (6) contained in the transport boxes from the central computer (7),
- subsequently, by means of a distribution route that is controlled by a navigation system (9) ~~or the like~~, the packages (1') are delivered to the addressee (41) with the optimized route planning (D), and
- ~~for this delivery~~ the package routing codes (C') are compared with test data (42).

6. (currently amended) The method according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the dynamically optimized route planning (D) is performed by ~~means of~~ the central computer (7) in a time window that enables delivery of the packages (1') on a day following the day of ~~acquisition~~ acquiring the packages.

7. (currently amended) The method according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that in place of the decentralized~~ the collecting locations ~~location~~ (2) are the addresses of the senders and the packages (1') are picked up by a pickup service and are provided by the pickup service with an information carrier receiving the ~~electronically detectable~~ packaging codes (C).

8. (currently amended) The method according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the packages (1') are supplied from the collecting locations ~~location~~ (2) directly to the HUB center.

9. (currently amended) The method according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that wherein~~ the central computer (7) is provided with programs into which a complete address list, ~~the~~ postal codes to be correlated therewith, and actual geo coordinates are ~~can be~~ entered.

10. (currently amended) The method according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that wherein~~ with the programs of the central computer (7) respective limit ranges of the package dimensions, a maximum number of packages (4') that can be delivered in a package stack (6) or in the ~~the~~ [[a]] transport box, and a time window for package delivery can be predetermined.

11. (currently amended) A device for distributing packages or similar dispatched articles, ~~in particular,~~ for performing the method according to claim 1, the device comprising:

a HUB center, ~~characterized in that the device~~ and in the area of the HUB center ~~is provided with~~ a measuring device (3, 21) comprising sensor units for detecting identification data, package sizes (length, width, height, weight), addresses and geo coordinates, respectively~~[[,]]~~:

a central computer, wherein ~~and their~~ measured data (C, C') measured by the measuring device are ~~can be~~ supplied to the central ~~[a]~~ computer (4, 7) correlating the measured data to the packages (4') ~~as descriptive data~~ package routing codes such that by means of the measured data (C, C') processed by the central computer (4, 7) in the HUB center a control action is effected with which the ~~sortable~~ packages (4') are transferable in an ordered sequence (30) into at least one vehicle (8, 29, 35) and the packages (4') are distributable by a route planning (D) that is dynamically optimized by the package routing codes ~~expanded data set (C')~~.

12. (currently amended) The device according to claim 11, ~~characterized in that wherein,~~ for detecting and identifying the packages by ~~means of their~~ package codes, (C) a transponder as an information carrier ~~can be~~ is secured on the packages, wherein data of the transponder ~~package whose data can be~~ are acquired in the area of ~~[[a]] the~~ HUB center that is configured as a sorting location and ~~the HUB center is provided with~~ has a HUB computer (4) ~~having~~ with a stored-program control unit (SPC) and ~~connectable to a~~ connected to the central computer (7), which HUB computer for handling

the packages (4; 4') interacts respectively with sensor devices (3), controlled storage devices (14), packing devices (15; 16), and distribution systems (35; 36) on the basis of the geo coordinates (9).

13. (currently amended) The device according to claim 12 [[11]], ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the sensor units are arranged in the HUB center in the area of an arrival conveying stretch ~~has sensors that~~ and individually measure the packages (4); ~~respectively, whose~~ wherein comparing and measuring results of the sensor units are transmitted in the form of the package routing codes ~~(data sets C')~~ can be transmitted to [a] the transponder forming the information carrier ~~as well as~~ and to the HUB computer (4) with ~~SPC control unit (25) provided in the HUB center.~~

14. (currently amended) The device according to claim 11, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the HUB center in the area of an exit conveying stretch (5) is provided with a packing device (16) and a support device receiving ~~the~~ package stacks (6) contained in ~~the~~ a transport box (30).

15. (currently amended) The device according to claim 11, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein as a support device for ~~the~~ sorted package stacks (6) a transport box (30) having standardized dimensions is provided.

16. (currently amended) The device according to claim 11, ~~characterized in that~~ the wherein selected packages (4') in the area upstream of ~~the~~ a packing device (16) pass through a transport system (15) that distributes the packages (4') in a targeted way for transfer into ~~the~~ transport boxes (30).

17. (currently amended) The device according to claim 11, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the package routing codes ~~data of the package routing codes (C')~~ generated in the central computer (7) for ~~the~~ a transport box (30), respectively, are transmitted wireless[[.]] or by a data storage medium ~~diskette or the like~~ onto a terminal device (36) provided in ~~the~~ a distribution vehicle (35).

18. (currently amended) The device according to claim 17 [[11]], ~~characterized in that~~ wherein a navigation system or ~~similar~~ auxiliary devices (39; 40) with an application for geo coordinates that is integrated into the distribution vehicle (35) are connectable to the terminal device (36).

19. (currently amended) The device according to claim 17 [[11]],

~~characterized in that~~ wherein the terminal device (36) has an input part (42) that acknowledges the delivery of the package (4').